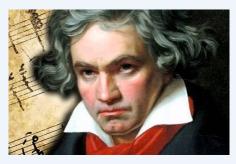


KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER: KEY COMPOSER 1

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN 1770 - 1827



- Beethoven was born in Germany. He was a German.
- Beethoven would be 250 years old!
- Beethoven was a perfectionist. He wrote lots of music but threw lots of it away. He always wanted everything to be just right. He became frustrated easily.
- Beethoven had many temper tantrums.
- Beethoven wrote 9 symphonies. His 10th symphony was unfinished—he died before he got to complete it.
- Beethoven went completely deaf. He didn't hear some of the music he wrote or the applause it got when it was performed.

250 Years Ago...

*James Cook, an explorer, discovered Australia and named it New South Wales

*England was at war with France. Napoleon was the Emperor of France

*Convicts were sent to Australia as a punishment

*George III was the King of England—people say he went mad!

*The police force was first established in England

*Lord Nelson dies at the Battle of Trafalgar. He was the Admiral on board HMS Victory. This ship is now docked at Portsmouth Harbour

| Symphony | A piece of music for full orchestra usually in 4 or 5 movements |
|----------|--|
| | Music that has a story. The composer uses music to tell a story or describe a scene. Often, programme notes are provided or a title helps the listener understand the mu- sic better. In Symphony No.6, Beethoven uses flutes to describe the birds. |
| Theme | A musical phrase that is repeated. This is a repetitive tune and/or rhythm. |
| | Music for an orchestra can be divided into sections like chapters in a book. In a sym- phony, each movement is different in style. There are slow and faster movements. |

BEETHOVEN'S SIGNIFICANT WORKS

SYMPHONY NUMBER 5

*Nicknamed the Victory Symphony

*The 'dot dot dot dash' theme in the first movement is probably the most well-known theme ever written

*V is the Roman Numeral for the number 5

*'dot dot dash' is Morse code for the letter V—Is this a coincidence? Morse code was created 30 years after this symphony was written

*V is for Victory—made famous during World War 2 by the Prime Minister, Winston Churchill

SYMPHONY NUMBER 6

*Nicknamed the Pastoral Symphony

*One of the first good examples of Programme Music

*Inspired by Beethoven's love of nature

*This symphony describes the countryside

*This symphony is in 5 movements and each movement has a title.

1.Scene in the countryside 2. Scene by the brook 3.A wedding 4.A thunderstorm 5.Calm after the storm

FUR ELISE

*Probably the best known piano solo ever written

*Discovered 40 years after Beethoven's death

*Fur Elise translates into English as 'For Elizabeth' but who was Elizabeth? Nobody really knows!